

# Lithuania May Shut Soviet A-Station

*Kremlin's Blockade Could Force Cutoff of Power to Military Bases, Vilnius Warns*

Reuter

MOSCOW, May 29—Lithuanian Prime Minister Kazimiera Prunskiene told Moscow today that its economic blockade of the rebel republic would force the shutdown of a nuclear power station supplying energy to a key Soviet military region.

The region of Kaliningrad, accessible from the Soviet Union only through Lithuania, houses the headquarters of the Soviet Baltic Fleet and several large military bases.

In a telegram to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov, Prunskiene said lack of fuel caused by the blockade meant that a power station linked to a nuclear power plant at Ignalina would close.

"The situation at the . . . power station could lead to an accident at the nuclear power station. It will therefore be necessary to halt the operation of the nuclear power station. This would

lead to a disruption in electricity supplies in both Lithuania and the Kaliningrad region," said Prunskiene's telegram, read by a Radio Vilnius journalist.

Moscow imposed its economic blockade against Lithuania to force the republic to suspend its March 11 declaration of full, immediate independence, something Vilnius refuses to do.

Boris Yeltsin, the populist politician elected president of the Russian Republic today, said his republic is prepared to open negotiations with the rebel Baltic republics on establishing direct economic links.

Lithuanian President Vytautas Landsbergis sent Yeltsin a telegram congratulating him on his election and said he hopes the way is now open for cooperation between Lithuania and Russia, Radio Vilnius reported.

Lithuanian attempts to set up direct trading links with cities in the Russian Republic to swap meat for oil have been frustrated by the Kremlin,

which banned freight trains from carrying virtually all goods into the Baltic republic.

A Lithuanian government statement said the republic is in a critical position. All the republic's oil-fired power stations have effectively closed down and 40,000 people are out of work, it said.

In Riga, capital of nearby Latvia, the foreign ministers of Lithuania, Estonia and Latvia said they would not recognize any agreements on the Baltic crisis reached by Gorbachev and President Bush at their Washington summit starting Wednesday.

"The president of the Soviet Union has no legal authority to represent [the Baltic states] at the upcoming summit . . . Any eventual agreement signed there will not be binding upon the Baltic states," the statement said.

The three have all declared independence and denounced the Nazi-Soviet pact that led to their forcible incorporation into the Soviet Union in 1940.

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BY RAY LUSTIG—THE WASHINGTON POST

Lithuanian leader Prunskiene sends warning to Prime Minister Ryzhkov.